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# NEWS RELEASE

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## **Administrative Office of the Courts Names Ernesto V. Fuentes as New Human Resources Director**

San Francisco—The appointment of Mr. Ernesto V. Fuentes as the new Human Resources Director of the Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC) was announced today by William C. Vickrey, Administrative Director of the California Courts. Following a national recruitment, Mr. Fuentes will begin his new duties on Tuesday, September 6, 2005.

In his new position, Mr. Fuentes will lead a professional team that is responsible for providing human resources services to the AOC, the California Supreme Court, and the six state Courts of Appeal. He will provide a variety of services to California's superior courts in developing policies, procedures, and administrative support systems for effective human resource operations.

"We are extremely pleased that Ernesto has accepted this important position with the judicial branch of California," said Mr. Vickrey. "His diverse professional background, strong interpersonal skills, and optimistic leadership style will compliment the current needs of the California courts. I am confident that he will make a significant contribution to addressing the human resources needs of the trial and appellate courts and our organization."

"I am pleased to join the Administrative Office of the Courts as the Human Resources Director," stated Mr. Fuentes. "I look forward to supporting the human resource administration needs of the Supreme Court, appellate courts, and the superior courts of California."

Interim Human Resources Director Pat Sweeten, who also directs the AOC's Executive Office Programs Division, stated: "We are excited to have Ernesto join the Administrative Office of the Courts and know that he will bring a wealth of knowledge and energy to the human resources division."

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Mr. Fuentes has more than 17 years of experience in human resources management in the public and private sectors, including providing consulting services to federal and local government agencies, and Fortune 500 companies.

He comes from the Solano Community College District where he was the Director of Human Resources and Chief Negotiator. Previously, he was Director of Human Resources for the Contra Costa County Community College District and the Director of Classified Personnel for the Montebello Unified School District. In addition, Mr. Fuentes formerly held the position of Inspector General for the Southern California Rapid Transit District where he directed and managed internal performance, operational and management audits, external financial and contract audits, internal security and equal opportunity investigations, and enforced labor compliance rules. He also held positions as an attorney with the U.S. Department of Transportation, U.S. Council on Wage and Price Stability, and the U.S. Department of Justice in Washington, D.C.

Mr. Fuentes holds a B.S. in economics from Loyola Marymount University and a J.D. from Rutgers School of Law.

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